

Remarks

Claims 55 and 70-74 are allowed in the application.

A Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due statement has been issued; however, there remains prior art which was submitted by Applicant but neither initialed nor crossed-off by the Examiner. Such art was cited in Form PTO-1449 which accompanied a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement signed by the undersigned on January 5, 2004. A duplicate copy of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, together with the accompanying Form PTO-1449 and cited art references, plus evidence of the proper timely filing via U.S. Express Mail, is attached.

It is respectfully requested that the January 5, 2004 Form PTO-1449 be initialed as evidencing that the Examiner has indeed considered the subject citations, and then be returned to the undersigned.

This Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is also submitted in an abundance of caution to place a certain new reference before the Examiner for consideration. The reference is referred to in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement presented herewith.

This application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance,
and action to that end is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/23/06

By:


Robert C. Hyta
Reg. No. 46,791

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